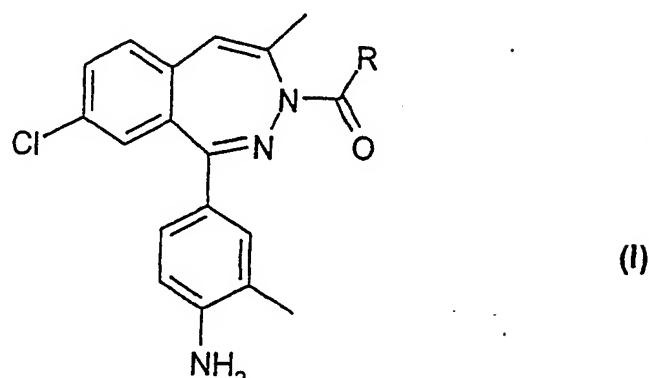


## CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1 through 14 (canceled)

1           15. (new) A compound of the formula (I)



3       wherein

4       R is a lower alkyl group or a group of the formula -NH-R<sup>1</sup>, wherein  
5       R<sup>1</sup> is a lower alkyl or a lower cycloalkyl group), or a  
6       pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

1           16. (new) The compound of the formula (I) as defined in  
2       claim 15, wherein R is C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, or a pharmaceutically  
3       acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

1           17. (new) The compound of the formula (I) as defined in  
2       claim 16, wherein R is methyl or ethyl, or a pharmaceutically  
3       acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

1           18. (new) The compound of the formula (I) as defined in  
2 claim 1, wherein R is a group of the formula-NH-R<sup>1</sup>, and R<sup>1</sup> is a C<sub>1</sub>  
3 to C<sub>4</sub> alkyl or a C<sub>3</sub> to C<sub>6</sub> cycloalkyl group, or a pharmaceutically  
4 acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

1           19. (new) The compound of the formula (I) as defined in  
2 claim 18, wherein R<sup>1</sup> is a methyl or a cyclopropyl group, or a  
3 pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

1           20. (new) The compound of the formula (I) as defined in  
2 claim 15, selected from the group consisting of:

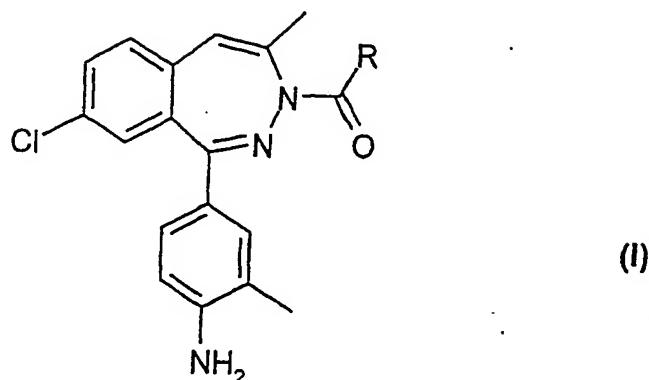
3           (a) 1-(4-amino-3-methylphenyl)-8-chloro-4-methyl-3H-2,3-  
4 benzodiazepine 3-carboxylic acid methyl amide;

5           (b) 1-(4-amino-3-methylphenyl)-8-chloro-4-methyl-3H-2,3-  
6 benzodiazepine-3-carboxylic acid cyclopropyl amide;

7           (c) 3-acetyl-1-(4-amino-3-methylphenyl)-8-chloro-4-  
8 methyl-3H-2,3-benzodiazepine; and

9           (d) 3-propionyl-1-(4-amino-3-methylphenyl)-8-chloro-  
10 4-methyl-3H-2,3-benzodiazepine, or a pharmaceutically acceptable  
11 acid addition salt thereof.

1                   21. (new) A process for the preparation of a compound of  
2                   the formula (I)



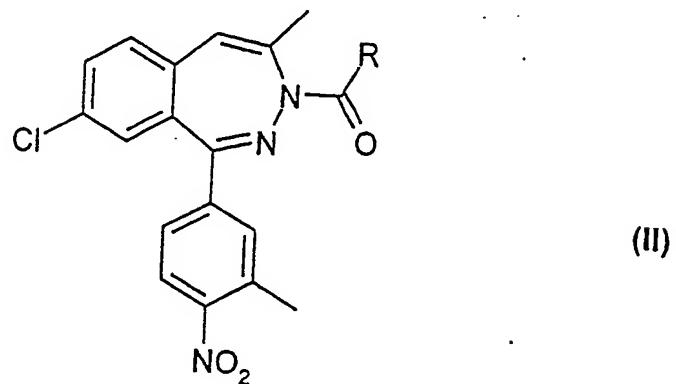
4                   wherein

5                   R is a C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>6</sub> alkyl group or a group of the formula -NH-

6                   R<sup>1</sup>, wherein

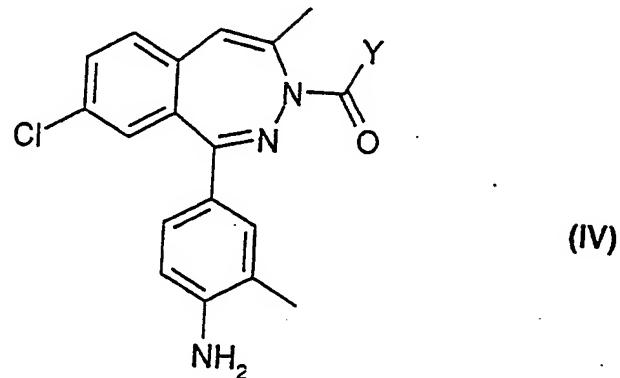
7                   R<sup>1</sup> is a C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>6</sub> alkyl or a C<sub>3</sub> to C<sub>7</sub> cycloalkyl group, or a  
8                   pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof, which  
9                   comprises

10                  (a) reducing a compound of the formula (II),



12 wherein R is as stated above; or  
13 for the preparation of a compound of the formula  
14 (I) wherein R is specifically a group of the formula-NH-R<sup>1</sup>, wherein  
15 R<sup>1</sup> is as stated above,

16 (b) reacting a compound of the formula (IV),



18 wherein Y is a lower alkyl group or a leaving  
19 group, with a compound of the formula (V),

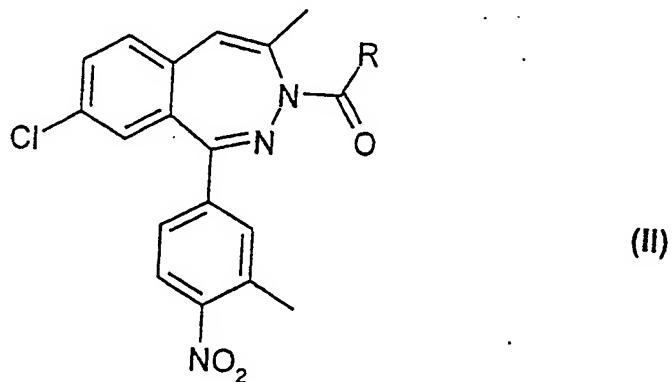
20 H<sub>2</sub>N-R<sup>1</sup> (V)

21 wherein R<sup>1</sup> is as stated above,  
22 and, if desired, converting the compound of the formula (I) thus  
23 obtained into a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt  
24 thereof.

1               22. (new) A pharmaceutical composition for treating a  
2 central nervous system disorder comprising as active ingredient a  
3 therapeutically effective amount of the compound of the formula (I)  
4 as defined in claim 15 or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid  
5 addition salt thereof in admixture with an inert solid or liquid  
6 carriers and/or auxiliary agent.

1               23. (new) A method of treating a patient suffering from  
2 a central nervous system disorder, which comprises the step of  
3 administering to said patient in need of such treatment, a  
4 therapeutically effective amount of the compound of the formula (I)  
5 as defined in claim 15 or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid  
6 addition salt thereof.

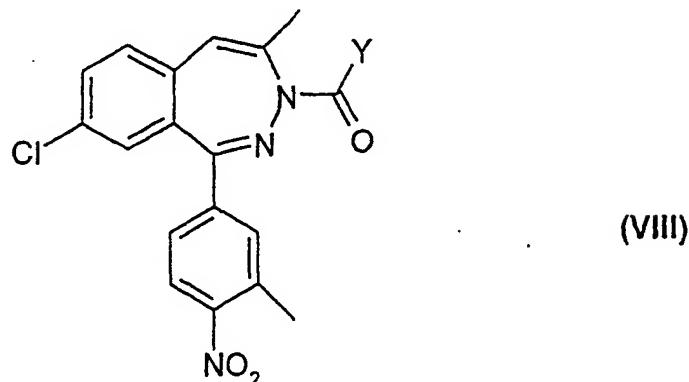
1               24. (new) A compound of the formula (II)



3               wherein R is a lower alkyl group or a group of the formula -NH-R<sup>1</sup>,  
4               wherein

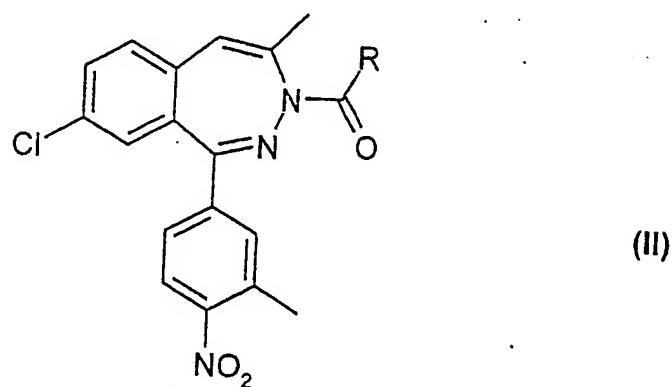
5       R<sup>1</sup> is a lower alkyl or a lower cycloalkyl group), or a  
6       pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

1           25. A compound of the formula (VIII)



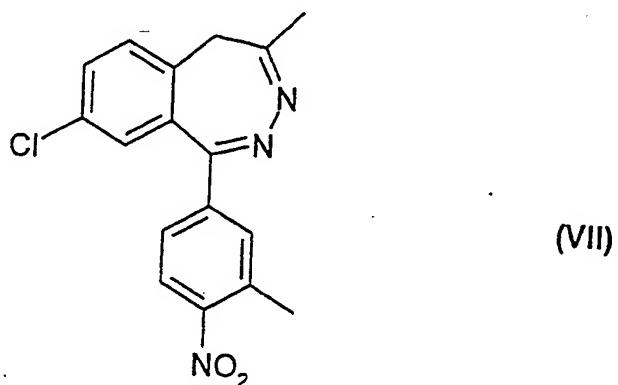
3       wherein Y is a leaving group.

1           26. (New)   A process for the preparation of a compound  
2       of the formula (II)

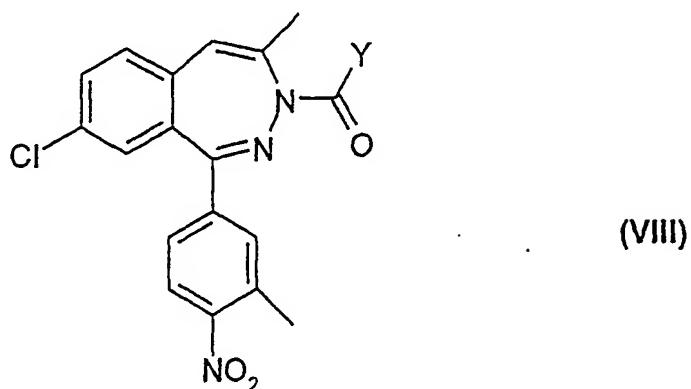


4 wherein

5 R is a lower alkyl group or a group of the formula -NH-R<sup>1</sup>, wherein  
6 R<sup>1</sup> is a lower alkyl or a lower cycloalkyl group), or a  
7 pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof , which  
8 comprises reacting a compound of the formula (VII)



10 with a reagent capable of introducing a Y group, and reacting the  
11 thus-obtained compound of the formula (VIII)



13 with a compound of the formula (V)

14



15 to obtain the desired product.